THE SOUTH.

REVOLUTIONIZING THE REBELLION.

THE CRUSADE AGAINST JEFF, DAVIS.

His Military Qualifications Ridiculed.

Be Has Brought the Confederacy to the Verge of the "Sloping Descent to Perdition."

A Convention of States Called for the Purpose of Making Lee Generalissimo and Deposing Jeff. Davis.

The Country Dissatisfied with the Result of Jeff.'s Military Administration,

Revolutionize the Revolution.

[From the Richmond Enquirer, Jan. 10.]

Secretary Seward and General Grant have made orials of the Richmond papers the sources of inmand opinion for their bulletins and despatches, ile will not be surprised to learn from the next States papers that despatches have gone to Europe ward to announce the final caving in of the reast forces and of all the States—to revolutionize of States and of all the States—to revolutionize bulltion, to denose Mr. Davis, who cut Congress.

Well, conventions make constitutions. Let us have a convention—a convention of full powers—the convention of Virginia first of all. The Legislature of Virginia is in session—let it call a convention of the State.

We know why most persons, both in Virginia and elsewhere, have been reluctant hitherto to say the word; it is because the recommendations for calling conventions, which have been lately made in two States of the confederacy were supposed to contemplate or seemed to cotempiate, a breach of faith and base acandonment of like in the very crisis and agony of war for our com-son independence; therefore such suggestions were ery properly rebuged, both in Georgia and North Caro-ma; and in the latter State the present Governor was arried triumphantly into office expressly as the oppo-ent and denouncer of a State convention for any such

lina; and in the lather State the present Governor was surried triumphantly into office expressly as the opponent and denouncer of a State convention for any such purpose.

But State conventions are our highest political tribunals, the most potent expression of that sovereign independence which we are now banded together to assert. If some have invoked a convention, but in vain, to offer an abject submission to the enemy, it does not follow that conventions themselves are condemned. They may be invoked for good as well as for evil—to make successful war as well as disgraceful peace. And what is now proposed is that Virginia and the other Confederate States forthwith meet in separate State conventions—to be followed by a convention of delegates from them all, in order to consider the present and past conduct of the war, and to recommend some measures to the central agency (which is the creature of the States) with a view to its speedy and triumphant success.

Of course this proceeds upon the assumption that there do a very general discontent soft the present administration of military affairs, and distrust and uneasiness shout the result, if the present management be continued. For the assumption that such a feeling exists there are but too good grounds. It is in the air; it is in the eyes and voices of mon; it goes with them to church; it attends them to the market; lonely pickets feel it around them at night, and black care mounts behind the horseman. Neither is it a superstition and baseless hallucination. This people is rational, logical, consequent, and while persistent effort, and indomitable conflict and defiance come natural to it, yet it requires to feel that it is not befooled. God knows the people of Virginia have shrunk from no peril, or sacrifice or hardship; neither will they shrink; but they need to be assured in their own hearts that, when they suffer they can see their way to the reward; that when they marke acrifices there is not somebody making a sacrifice of them. It has been with an anxious

Air.

It was a misfortune to the confederacy, as is long since reident, that its first President was, or thought himself to At was a misfortune to the confederacy, as is long since ordent, that its first President was, or thought himself to be, a military man. If he had been some worthy planter, who never was either at West Point or Mexico, and had no special qualification save a manly, straightforward Bouthern spirit, then he would never have thought himself competent to plan distant campaigns and interfere with generals in the field; he would then have been well piezed to remose the active military content in the hands

impaled upon; but he gores us with both horns, like a buil.

However this may be, there is a real danger, not so much that the military resources of the country, but what is more important, the military spirit of the country may be wasted, the proud resolve to go all lengths in pessance to an infamous invasion—that spirit which would have borne us and our cause triumphantly through to a glorious end, with ordinary sagacity and energy in the conduct of affairs, may grow weary, weary;—only stapidity or sycophaney would deny it—and in order that the evil may be remedied it needs that some one boldly point it only and indicate the cause of it, and the remedy. In one word, then, we are not afraid of being conquered by the meany, to much as of being defeated by Mr. Davis. He despices all warrings, and constitutionally smuts Cot years.

may be done to give the greatest efficiency to the means of defence the country afords? If such reflection should bring the conclusion that changes are expedient in any of the departments of administration, we fervently trust there may be no such adhesiveness of disposition, no such tenacity of friendship, as will prevent the change being made. If it shall be discovered that there has been error of judgment and mistake of action in regard to the qualifications of leading military men and the merit of their campaigns and operations, we again fervently trust that there may be no such pride of opinion as will prevent a reparation of the error, even though such reparation involve the confession of fault. If it shall be seen that laws have been negligently or not at all enforced, such, for example—in some of the States—as the laws for conscription, the laws for the employment of slaves and free negroes as teamsters, cooks, &c., &c.; the laws requiring all able bodied quartermasters, commissaries, clerks, &c., to fall into line; the laws to prevent straggling and absenteeism, to reclaim to the service all who are improperly away from it—we hope that those who are charged with these duties will be made to feel at once the impulsion of a force that they dare not resist.

To make these suggestions practical, we take the liberty of saying that there are many who are in every way friendly to the Executive, and who have deemed it a duty at all times and in all things to sustain the administration, who are anxiously inquiring whether it would not be possible to find some one better adapted to the trying and momentous duties of the War Office than the present head of that department. They do not doubt the talents, the attainments, the zeal or the virtues of Mr. Seddon; but they do doubt whether his intellect and acquirements are of the precise of mr. Seddon be not such a man, and such a lone of the Army of Tranchard Transition of the Army of Transier of Georgia and South Carolina, and General Lee command of the Army of Virgi

Jeff. Davis Rather Likes to be Criticised.

[From the Richmond Whig, Jaz. 2.]

"Cape Fear," the correspondent of the Wilmington
Journal, writes:—I happen to know that the Fresident
was approached some months ago by an intelligent gentleman who desired to establish a first class newspaper,
which should support the administration, and that the
President, after thanking him for his good intentions,
replied that while he wished to receive the support of
the press of the country, he did not wish to have an organ devoted especially to his interests. He said no main
was so wise or eleyated that he could not be benefited
by judicious and independent criticism, and that he desired the press to be perfectly free to condemn or approve the acts of government according as they might
deserve.

Rebel Military Items.
[From the Richmond Whig, Jan. 9.]
Major General Martin has been assigned to duty in
North Mississippi by General Gardner. General Martin
formerly commanded a cavalry division under Wheeler.
General Wirt Adams has his beadquarters at Panola,
Mississippi, A strong picket is placed along the Coldwater, and no one is allowed to pass either way.
General D. Hill has reported to General Besuregard at
Charleston.

General D. Hill has reported to determ be determed to the Charleston.

Lieutenant Colonel Wm. Lee Davidson has been commissioned Colonel of the Seventh regiment North Carolina troops, vice Colonel E. G. Haywood retired to the invalid corps.

The Wilmington Journal expresses great gratification at the skill, energy and general ability displayed by Generals Bragg and Whiting in connection with the defence of Wilmington.

Gen. Radsom has been relieved of the command of

some villains among them. These undoubtedly knew where to direct the destroying torch of the enemy, and not a house is left standing which the Yankees had a chance to destroy. Our men had more than this negative proof of the patriotism of the people. The pursuit would have proved a failure for want of ammunition, but this was supplied by a lady, who inquired if they wanted any, telling them that she had three thousand cartridges buried in a safe place. They were exhumed and found to be in good condition.

The Fire at Charlotte.
Charlotte, Dec. 9, 1864.
The fire which occurred here on Saturday morning w

The loss was at first estimated as high as twenty millions of dollars in present currency, but has since been greatly reduced by the quantity of grain, sugar, &c, saved frem the rains.

Affairs in Charleston Harbor.

[From the Richmond Whig, Jan. 10.]

We have the Charleston Courier of the 3d, from which we learn that five shots were fired at the city Friday night, since which the enemy have been silent.

Two Yankee barges, under the command of two acting master's mates, with their cives, comprising twelve and thirteen men respectively, were captured off Fort Sumter on Saturday night by our naval picket boats from the receiving ship Indian Chief. One of the Yankee barges, under the command of Acting Master A. F. Rich, helongs to the blockading steamer Mary Sandford; the other, commanded by Acting Master Wm. Fitzgerald, belongs to the double-ender Pontiac. The prisoners state that they were on picket duty, and cruising in search of blockade runners.

The captured blockade runner reported among the fleet on the 25th inst., they state, was the steamer Julia, towed off from where she had been beached near Cape Romain. These prisoners also report the capture of the crew of the steamer fleatrice, about whose fate much anxiety has been felt.

Several ladies, returning to their homes here from the

steamer Bearrice, access the state of the been felt.

Several ladies, returning to their homes here from the North, came into our lines on Saturday through flag of truce on James Island.

GRANT.

HRADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE JAMES, Jan. 11, 1865.

THE REMOVAL OF GENERAL BUTLER, The removal of Major General Butler still continue he absorbing subject of conversation, although it is hardly even yet generally known throughout the two hardly even yet generally known throughout the two corps so long under his command. Everybody, from the highest in command down to the private in the ranks, was taken completely by surprise. It was never believed for a moment that the government would attempt such a measure against a man to whom has ever been ascribed so much ability and influence. But Butler has gone, and with such celerity that the reception of the order and the obedience accorded it were aimost similaneous occurrences. He was on his way down the James river before many residing at his own headquarters knew that he had been relieved; indeed, some of the newspaper correspondents, whose busin's swould be supposed to render them peculiarly alert for such intelligence, were not aware of the fact until late the following day.

Of course the cause generally assigned for this change in commanders is the failure of the Wilmington expedition.

through many stages, has at length reached its worst possible condition. We have had snows and thaws, and everything else that would tend to cut up and destroy the roads, but the climax was reached yesterday, when, after twenty four hours of rain, the country had become nearly impassable. New and heretofore unknown rivulets were running in every direction, and every stretch of what had been low ground was covered with water to such an extent as to resemble a small lake. One of these places near General Ord's headquarters was throughout the day not only filled with the debris of wagons, but narrowly escaped being the scene of death by drowning of half a dozen unfortunate mules.

More Deserters Coming Into Our Lines.

Heaequarters, Army of the Potomac, }
Jan. 9, 1885. }
Several rebel deserters came in to-day, besides a large number of contrabands. All were in the most wretched condition imaginable. They had travelled a long distance in the rain, and were objecte of pity to all who saw them. They report that the rebel cavalry have withdrawn to Hickford, on the Weldon Railroad, where they have gone into winter quarters. They were compelled to fall back to this point, owing to the lack of forage between there and Reams' station, and also for the sake of transportation, owing to the destruction of the railroad in that district by General Warren.

They, however, picket as far as Reams' station, and on the west side of Hatcher's run, with a division of Gen. Hill's corps, located on the Boydton plank road.

The rebels have been very busy preparing the railroad north of Hickford for the relaying of the rails, but as yet none have been put down, probably because they do not possess them.

A beautiful flag was recently presented to the One Hundred and Sixth New York Volunteers by the ladies of St. Lawrence and Franklin counties, N. Y. It is a handome and costly flag, and is inscribed with the battles in which the regiment has been engaged. It is a well merifful tribute to their bravery and gallant [4].

THE STREET CLEANING DIFFICULTY.

Attack on Mr. Hecker in the Park.

Interesting Proceedings in Court on the Injunction.

THE DECISION TO-MORROW,

Yesterday, being the day set apart for the argument on

against the proceeding, and says it is a fraud, he is mobbed right under the very nose of justice. Of the \$66,000 already spent not \$300,000 had gone into the pockets of these misguided men. The balance of the money had been appropriated by persons who had no title to the money whatever. He was w ling and anxious that these men who had performed the labor should be paid to the uttermost farthing; but he was opposed to parties receiving the money who had rendered no services whatever, and were only on the pay rolls from political motives. Several of these workmen called upon him in reference to the matter, and when he explained Mr. Hecker's position in the matter they left perfectly satisfied. Mr. Whiting then referred to the heavy taxes that the people were obliged to pay, and said the time was not far distant when the property now in the hands of citizens would all be confiscated. In conclusion, the counsel again siluded to the action of the mob, and said they should be taught to obey the laws, and not to lay violent hands on a citizen because he dared to seek redress in a court of justice. If this sort of violence was the doctrine of the democracy, the sooner the party was wiped out forever from the face of the country the better. The idea that a street sweeper liad rights superior to any other citizen was an error, and if the time should come when that error was to be made manifest otherwise than by a demand in a court of justice, then civil liberty would cease to exist. Mr. Hecker—Yes, your Honor; I was born in this country; I—

Judge Ingraham—The gentlemen will please come to

Mr. Hecker-Ies, your holor, country; I—
Judge Ingraham—The gentlemen will please come to order. Is Mr. Whiting through with his remarks?
Ex-Judge Whiting—I believe I have concluded my

Ex Judge Whiting—I believe I have concluded my argument.

Ex Judge Allen had the closing argument, and spoke rather briefly, but to the point. He said that C. G. Genther was Mayor, Mathew T. Brennan was Compreller and F. I. A. Boole was Gity Inspecter, and that was the secret of all the hubbub. It was to be presumed that these gentlemen were all honest until it was shown to be otherwise, and it was an insult to the community for Mr. Heeker, or anybody else, whether he lastled from the Citizens' Association or not no dictate to these officers of the city government how or in what makener they should conduct the business of their several departments. Mr. Heeker's complaint was founded on information and belief only. He knew nothing of his own knowledge, and why he should be allowed to keep the machinery of the city government from moving the counsel could not imagine.

The connection handed their points to the Judge, who remarked that he would be ready to render his decision at ten o'clock on Sathfag morning.

THE CLOSING SCENES OUTSIDE.

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The argument having been closed, the counsel left the court room, and were proceeding to cross the Fark when the crowd gathered around Mr. Develin and eagerly asked him what he thought would be the result of the litigation. The Corporation Counsel gave them all the information be could upon the subject, and was struggling to get to his office when they insisted on his making a speech.

get to his office when they insisted on his making a speech.

Mr. Develin addressed the workmen in a conciliatory strain, and told them to remain perfectly quiet until the decision of the Court was known. He felt a strong interest in the result of the suit, and said he was sure the Court would dissolve the injunction, whereupon some one in the crowd cried out "Three cheers for Dan Develin," which were given with a will.

Ex Jodge Allen was also called upon for a speech, but he excused himself and said the men would be righted on Saturday.

The crowd then took the advice of the Corporation Counsel and quietly dispersed to their homes. Mr. Hecker took his departure through the rear door on Chambers street, and thus escaped the attention of his enemies. He expressed a determination not to stay in the city over night, and told the driver of the hack to take him to the New Haven Railroad depot, saying it was his intention to sleep in the good old State of Connecticut.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT OF THE ATTACK ON MR. HECKER.

at noon, while passing through the Park on his way t the Supreme Court chamber, where the injunction case, in which he is opposed to the Mayor, Comptroller and City Inspector, was to be heard before Judge Ingraham. When opposite Tammany Hall, about two hundred laborers rushed upon him, knocked him down, cuffed him around a good deal, and a momentary scuttle ensued, from amid which Mr. Hecker was seen to suddenly arise, like the Phornix from the fire, and run at full speed for the Court House, minus his chapeau. The crowd discovering Court House, minus his chapcau. The crowd discovering that the bird had flown, and in the very direction they intended him not to fly, too, followed in full chase after him, like a pack of hounds after a fox. The reformer kept his distance, however, at a break-neck pace till he reached the court, when he was again overhauled, struck several times about the head, face and aboutlers; bot, to the attentionment of every CDC, aware jet the race. In a mounter to revery CDC, aware jet the race. In a mounter to revery CDC, aware jet the race.

procured pieces of timber beams and what other ponderous articles they could handle and commenced battering in the door. The scenes in the court room were now laughable, though serious, and yet the more serious the more laughable. The Judge and many of the lawyers retired to the inner room, while the battering went on, and fears were whispered around that the door would yield before a sufficient force of police would be on the ground to interfere materials with the progress of the unextendious opening of the Hall of Justice. Meantime messengers had been rapidly and secretly despatched for the police, who at length arrived and relieved the trepidation of the timid and secured the doors of the court and the persons of Mr. Hecker and his counsel.

In a conversation with one of the ashmen, which we had afterwards, he said that the object was more to badly frighten Mr. Hecker than to do him any serious or permanent injury. If this was the whole of their object it was certainly accomplished.

The injunction went on about an hour after the appointed time, and the majesty of the law was sustained. A large force of police guarded the court room and its entrance during the rest of the day. There were many arrests made by the police, who had quite a scuffle with the ashinen in the entrance to the Court House. An excited crowd, with menacing and desperate aspect, remained in the vicinity of the affray for over an hour after the occurrence of the scenes above described.

THE STREET CLEANING CONTRACT. commission for awarding the street cleaning

tract, consisting of the Mayor, Comptroller and City Inspector, was convened vesterday for the purpose of con-\$300,000, Mr. Williamson representing the \$300,000, Mr. Williamson representing the company. The commissioners received a further proposal, in general terms, from the company, stating that they were willing to make a contract with specifications, in accordance with the ordinance of the Common Cosneil of 1857, and the act of the Legislature of 1864, and would hand the same in as early as next Toesday. Awaiting this action on the part of the company the commission adjourned to meet again upon the receipt of the specifications made out in due form, when it is to be hoped that action will be immediately taken upon it, the contract awarded, and our city relieved from its present disgraceful condition.

SHERMAN.

THE GREATEST ORDER PRESERVED.

Soldiers Punished for Insults to Citizens,

othing to the citizen, but had the soldier taken to the

The Custom House and Post Office are being cleaned

whatever, to enter private residences. The negroes in most cases are orderly and quiet, remaining with their owners and performing their custom-

The churches on Sundays are well filled with ladies On week days, however, but few of them are seen on the

time to come, but there is a scarcity of wood. General Sherman has announced that he will soon remedy this last difficulty by getting wood, via the Gulf Railway, and hauling it to the citizens.

No pass is allowed to any male person to go towards

All females who are caught going towards the city are

thoroughly searched.

Eleven hundred loaves of good bakers' bread, which

but for which authorized agents did not call, were on Thursday turned over to the Poor Association of Savan-nah by the committee acting in behalf of the soldiers' dinner, and were yesterday distributed to the poor of the

entirely out of breadstuffs of every kind, and for days past had been unable to issue a pound of meal or flour to the hundreds who were sorely in need of it.

The two committees appointed by the Chamber of Commerce and Produce Exchange are hard at work in order that the steamer may be despatched to the su ferers of Savannah at the earliest moment. It is pected that the Rebecca Clyde, which has been placed at the disposal of the committee, will get off on Saturday afternoon. Subscriptions of provisions and money are coming in rapidly. It is very necessary that this aid
should reach Savannah as soon as possible.

A meeting of the Chamber of Commerce committee
will be held to-day at one o'clock. Colonel Julian Allen
acknowledges the receipt of \$500 from Lathrop, Ludington & Co., and \$50 from Mr. P. T. Barnam. Colonel
Allen expects to despatch a steamer in the early part of
next week. next week.

The Rebecca Clyde is now loading with provisions for Savannah at pier No. 14 East river, foot of Wall street. All goods should be directed to Archibald Baxter, Chairman of Chamber of Commerce Committee.

News from Port Royal, S. C.

The United States steam transport Geo. C. Collins, Captain Potter, from Port Royal, S. C., 7th inst., arrived nt this port yesterday morning.

Captain Potter states that there was no news of import-

General Sherman had moved part of his army to Beaufort, S. C., by water. The Abolition of Slavery in Missouri.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Jan. 12, 1865. The following despatch was received by Governor Cur

To the Governor of Presentation of Tree Missouri greets her oldest sister.

T. C. FLETCHER, Governor of Missouri.

Governor Curtin sent the following reply:-HARRISHURS, Pa., Jan. 12, 1865. To his Excellency the GOVERNOR OF MISSOURI, Jefferso

City:—
Feunsylvania, first born of Freedom, welcomes her disenthralled sister State of Missouri. Redeemed in the
agony of the nation and amid the throes of wanton rebellion, her offering to liberty comes baptized in her
richest blood and will be accepted by a faithful and free
people as one of the crowning tributes to their matchless
feroism and their sacrifices to preserve and perpetuate
our common nationality.

A. G. CURTIN, Governor of Pennsylvania.

Brigadier General S. Sprigg Carroll left for Washington vesterday, to take charge of the organization of Major tentral Response From Vesters corps.

ANOTHER APPALLING DISASTER.

The Steam Transport Melville Foundered at Sea.

NEARLY ALL ON BOARD LOST.

Four of the Survivors Picked Up at Sea.

NAMES OF THE PASSENGERS,

The bark Rechabite, Capt. Leeman, arrived at this port resterday morning from Ragged Island. Capt. Leeman reports that on the 8th instant, lat. 38, lon. 74, about three A. M., his attention was attracted by calls. In laycane deck, part of a wreck, Albert L. Baydon, who stated Hatheway's steamers, the Melville, which sailed from New York on the 5th inst., bound to Hilton Head, and had encountered heavy southwest winds, with a h sea, until the 7th, at about nine P. M., when

The captain ordered the boat lowered, when he, the chief engineer, the first cook and one seaman, with sev ing, when we lowered the remaining boat—a metallic life boat. There was a vessel in sight from about twelve

Mr. Baydon says he saw a great many perish and many officers, crew and firemen.

off Mobile, and bought by Messrs. Whitney & Hatheway, improving her machinery. The value of the vessel is

register, built at Wellsford, in 1857, rated A2, and was two evlinders of twenty-eight inches in diameter an

twenty-eight inch stroke of;

Wm. M. Miller,
E. M. Edwardly,
R. Fitzeh,
W. H. Hoyt,
J. W. Buggy,
A. P. Paacock,
Miss M. J. Biehop,
R. L. Lee,
W. D. Benham,
F. Alfred Welton,
Edw. Riggs.
Horatto Hawkes,
James McMath, Osborne, L. Green,

Cinflin & Co.

H. B. Claim & Co., John O'Rourke, Vanderveer, Thorn & Bellows, R. H. Hamlin, J. J. Watson.

and was owned in this city. Captain W. was a resident of Brooklyn, where he leaves a family. Matthew T. Levy Mr. Bellows, a passenger, was of the firm of Vanderveer, Thorn & Bellows. Among the passengers,

who were mostly business men of Port Boyal, were an entire family named Biebop, and Colonel Strong and son. Mr. O'Rourke, who was a passenger, shipped a large amount of furniture

Additional Particulars. The brig Harriet, Captain Batraby, from Porto Cabello which arrived last evening, picked up the three men who were in the lifeboat.

Captain Batraby states that on the 8th inst. latitude the mate, third engineer and one passenger of the steam ship Melville, hence for Hilton Head, and foundered at sea on the 8th inst., took them on board and brough them to this port. Also took on board the boat.

The names of those taken on board the Harriet are A. B. Peacock, passenger, of Philadelphia; Joseph M Kerney, mate; Wm. Kenedy, third engineer. They reported having left New York on the 5th inst.

the day previous had her bow stove in by a heavy sea, which was occasioned by a heavy northerly gale, that commenced on the 7th inst., at three o'clock P. M. and lasted until four o'clock A. M., when it moderated When she went down there was a heavy cross sea on, and she sank very suddenly. The captain (Wattington was lost the night previous, by the swamping of one of the boats while launching. At that time the gale was very violent, and a bad cross sea. Before we left most of the passengers were drowned. At five P. M. passed a man on a portion of the upper deck of the steamer, and at ten P. M. was taken on board of the brig Harriet. Captain Batraby then says, "I ran to the north some little ing a light breeze from the south, and tacked to the westward, keeping as near the position as possible; and remaining till daylight and seeing nothing from the masthead with a glass, kept on our course, and at half-past nine of the 9th spoke the schooner Lucy Walsh, who had seen nothing of the wreck."

The Ship Albatross Foundared. The ship Albatrons, of Boston, from Cardiff for Malta, foundered at sea December 5. Crew saved and landed at

Liverpool December 25. . The Steamship Australasian Off.

SANDY HOOR, Jan. 12, 1865. cies pastreight o'clock last night, and anchored at the Southwest Spit. She passed over the bar at eight o'clock this morning, and sailed for Liverpool. Wind light and

SHENANDOAH.

Mr. Theodore C. Wilson's Despatch. WINCHESTER, Va., Jan. 12, 1865 GENERAL STERRIDAN TO HAVE A NEW COMMAND.

A rumor wory generally prevails here that General Sheridan is to be given another and very important com-

Lieutenant Merrill, Second cavalry division, has been nominated to a captaincy, for gallastry on the field. THE NEW COMMANDER OF THE BECOND CAVALRY DIVIDEN

It is settled that General Chapman is to command the Second cavalry division, in place of General Pewell, re-